

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 241831

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PANAMA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 241831

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, OVIP

SUBJECT: QUITO MEETING: LETTER FOR FM

PLEASE DELIVER FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO FOREIGN MINISTER TACK:

QUOTE: DEAR TONY:

AS YOU AND OUR OTHER COLLEAGUES OF THE HEMISPHERE PREPARE TO GATHER NEXT WEEK IN QUITO FOR THE MEETING OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES I WANTED YOU TO KNOW HOW MUCH I REGRET NOT BEING ABLE TO BE WITH YOU.

UNFORTUNATELY, THE MIDDLE EAST NEGOTIATIONS HAVE MADE IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR ME TO ATTEND ON THE DATES ULTIMATELY FIXED FOR THE SESSIONS IN ECUADOR. AT THE SAME TIME IT WAS NOT FEASIBLE UNTIL NOW TO MAKE KNOWN THAT I WOULD BE TRAVELING IN THE MIDDLE EAST. YOU CAN READILY UNDERSTAND HOW SENSITIVE THE TALKS ARE INVOLVING THE AREA AND THE IMPORTANCE OF THOSE TALKS TO WORLD PEACE.

BECAUSE OF THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, I HAVE ASKED MY DEPUTY AND CLOSE COLLEAGUE, BOB INGERSOLL, TO REPRESENT ME AT THE QUITO MEETING, ALONG WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY

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WILLIAM ROGERS AND OAS AMBASSADOR BILL MAILLIARD. I HAVE

THE FULLEST CONFIDENCE IN THEM. THEY WILL, OF COURSE, BE
FULLY PREPARED TO PARTICIPATE IN ALL ASPECTS OF THE TALKS,

AND I SHALL EXPECT FROM THEM A FULL REPORT OF THEIR
DISCUSSIONS WITH YOU WHEN THEY RETURN.

I PERSONALLY WILL BE FOLLOWING THE DEVELOPMENTS
AT THE QUITO MEETING CLOSELY. MY GOVERNMENT AND I ATTACH
GREAT IMPORTANCE TO THE PROCEEDINGS AND TO THE FINAL
RESULT. BEST WISHES. HENRY A. KISSINGER. END QUOTE. INGERSOLL

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